28th January 1929]

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know how they arrived at the conclusion that no complaints have been received when the fact is that the orders of the Government have not yet been carried out in certain parts of the taluk? I have myself heard a complaint?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I ask whether they ascertained from the local officers that no complaints have been received?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I may say, Sir, that the Government do not call for complaints. The Government have not received any complaints."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether at least now the Government will order proper distribution?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The distribution began in October. If there is any irregularity and if the hon. Member makes a representation, matters will be set right."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Is it not a fact that I have myself made a representation in writing saying there has been no proper distribution at all till now?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" My information is that the distribution was begun only in October. I do remember the receipt of a letter from the hon. Member and I have asked for a report."

Co-operative Societies

Alleged interference of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, in the elections to the Urban Bank, Tiruppattur.

* 1039 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Acting Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore Circle, recently interfered with the elections to the Urban Bank, Tiruppattur (North Arcot district);

(b) whether he issued what he called 'an interim stay order' with the intention of prohibiting the holding of the election;

(c) whether it is a fact that neither party sought the help of the Deputy Registrar or asked for his intervention;

(d) whether under the rules a Deputy Registrar has powers to issue such an 'interim stay order';

(e) whether the present Acting Deputy Registrar was promoted to that cadre overlooking the claims of many of his seniors in service;

(f) whether it is a fact that the 'stay order' was ignored by the Urban Bank and the elections were held; and

(g) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar threatens to proceed against the Urban Bank authorities for 'contempt of court'?

A.—(a) It is incorrect to say that the Deputy Registrar interfered. On the petition of T. S. Srinivasa Ayyar and five others he took up an arbitration case under rule XIV between the petitioners and the Directors of the Bank.

(*b*) Yes.
(*c*) No.
(*d*) The Deputy Registrar's action was *bona fide* and purported to be taken under rule XIV of the rules under the Act.
(*e*) The present acting Deputy Registrar was appointed by the Government. It is a selection appointment to which no one has any claim.
(*f*) Yes.
(*g*) The petitioner in the arbitration case urged the Deputy Registrar to take action on the criminal side but the Deputy Registrar did not make any such recommendation to the Registrar.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"My question was whether the Deputy Registrar had power to issue an interim stay order and the answer is that the Deputy Registrar's action was *bona fide.* I want to know whether he has the right to issue such an order?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"He appears to have no right to issue such an order legally but this is purely a matter of law."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Is it not a fact that he did issue the order most illegally?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"The notice purports to issue under Rule XIV."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"If it is illegal, will he take notice of the conduct of this officer?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"I shall take notice of it."

Alleged memorial regarding the affairs of the Urban Bank at Tiruppattur.

*1040 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether some of the members of the Urban Bank, Tiruppattur, North Arcot district, sent a Mahazar on 7th September 1928 to the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Vellore, alleging certain serious irregularities such as benami transactions and criminal misuse of funds by the Secretary and asking for a thorough enquiry into the affairs of the said Urban Bank;

(*b*) what action, if any, has been taken by the Co-operative Officers on the above Mahazar; and

(*c*) if the enquiry asked for or any enquiry under section 35 of the Co-operative Societies Act has not been held, the reasons why no such enquiry has been held?

A.—(*a*) A large number of members of the Bank asked the Deputy Registrar to hold an enquiry on the allegation of numerous irregularities and abuses by the present management.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Registrar camped at Tiruppattur on 6th December 1928 and received deputations on both sides. He visited the Bank subsequently, looked into some of their books and discussed the matter with the directors and other members present. An enquiry under section 35 of the Co-operative Societies Act is being held.